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PATENT 2224-0196P

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

ONCHI, Yoko et al.

Int'l. Appl. No.:

PCT/JP01/03423

Appl. No.:

New

Group:

Filed:

December 26, 2001 Examiner:

For:

PHOSPHORUS-CONTAINING COMPOUND

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

BOX PATENT APPLICATION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231

December 26, 2001

Sir:

The following Preliminary Amendments and Remarks respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

AMENDMENTS

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Before line 1, insert -- This application is the national phase under 35 U.S.C. § 371 of PCT International Application No. PCT/JP01/03423 which has an International filing date of April 20, 2001, which designated the United States of America. --

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REMARKS

The specification has been amended to provide a crossreference to the previously filed International Application.

Entry of the above amendments is earnestly solicited. An early and favorable first action on the merits is earnestly solicited.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP

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RCS/rem 2224-0196P